

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS : Nadler, *et al.*
SERIAL NUMBER : 09/830,400 EXAMINER : Ewoldt, Gerald R.
FILING DATE : July 20, 2001 ART UNIT : 1644
FOR : CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY AND DIAGNOSIS USING UNIVERSAL TUMOR
ASSOCIATED ANTIGENS, SUCH AS THE TELOMERASE CATALYTIC SUBUNIT
(HTERT), AND METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING UNIVERSAL TUMOR ASSOCIATED
ANTIGENS

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as set forth below and consider the following remarks:

In the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 46, line 23 as follows:

--To date, most data used for the generation of peptide-prediction algorithms have been generated with competition assays using a radioactive reference peptide and increasing concentrations of the peptide of interest (Ruppert *et al.*, Cell 74:929-937, 1993). We have detected discrepancies between cellular T2 assays and published data based on competition assays. To be able to compare directly these assays and to provide most accurate data for the optimization of our peptide prediction algorithms, we used a non-radioactive competition assay and compared this assay with our cellular T2 assay and the direct binding assay. We used T2 cell-derived MHC and a biotinylated peptide derived from the Influenza A matrix protein (FLPSDCFPSV; SEQ ID NO: 73) as a reference peptide, which was already being used as reference peptide in a fluorochrome-based assay (Kammer *et al.*, J. Exp. Med. 190:169-176, 1999). T2 cells were incubated in microtiter plates with 10 µg/ml biotinylated reference peptide and increasing concentrations of peptide under study for 20 hours at 37°C. Cell lysates were prepared as is described above and loaded onto ELISA plates coated with HLA-A2-specific mAb BB7.2. Europium-streptavidin was used to detect MHC/reference peptide complexes. A